

control, access a server, such as server 8, which stores an electronic program guide (EPG). Such information processing apparatuses 1, 2, 5 under a user control can access the EPG on the server 8 through the internet and download information of a program desired to be recorded, which information can then be provided to a remote recording device 12 so that the recording device can perform the recording. Such an operation provides an enhanced and simplified way for a user of the information processing apparatuses 1, 2, 5 to select a program to be recorded and to have the recording device 12 record the selected program.

According to features in the claimed invention, an information processing apparatus itself acquires, without needing an intermediary of a personal computer, through the internet and under a user control, the control information for controlling recording of a program from a remote program information providing apparatus, converts that information into code information, and transmits the code information to the remote recording apparatus. Further, that remote recording device 12 confirms whether the information from the information processing apparatus properly sets a program preset recording and displays whether the program preset recording is proper or improper.

The features as recited in the claims as written are believed to clearly distinguish over Shen.

Shen is directed to a method and system for using a personal digital assistant (PDA) as a remote control, and to that extent Shen discloses utilizing that PDA to program a VCR to record a selected TV program. However, Shen differs from the claims in the following aspects.

With reference to Figure 2 Shen discloses the PDA 210 only being able to access a desktop computer 202 to obtain codes and information to control the VCR. That is, in Shen the PDA 210 does not access the web page for TV program information 208. Instead, in Shen only the desktop computer 202 accesses the web page for TV program information.

The claims as written have a different operation than in Shen. Specifically, in the claims as written the information processing apparatus itself, “without accessing the personal computer” as now clarified in the claims, will access a remote program information providing server through the internet. Again with reference to Figure 1 in the present specification as a non-limiting example, the phone 1 or PDA 2 itself can access the remote program information providing server 8 through the internet 7. That operation is not possible in Shen as in Shen only the desktop computer 202 can perform that function. Shen operates on a different basis than the claimed invention in that Shen relies on the PDA 210 accessing the desktop computer 202 to receive a TV program information. The claimed inventions allow a different operation in allowing a device such as a cell phone or a PDA to directly access a program information providing server through the internet itself.

In such ways, the claims as written are believed to distinguish over Shen.

Moreover, no teachings in Marsh cure the above-noted deficiencies in Shen, and in that respect applicants note that Marsh was only cited to disclose confirming whether code information is proper and displaying whether a program recording is proper or improper.

In view of the present response applicants respectfully submit the claims as written distinguish over Shen in view of Marsh.

As no other issues are pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.

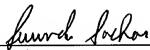
Respectfully submitted,

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